



#### COMPACT GOAL

The objective of the potential second compact in Benin is to help unlock growth potential of the country's agribusiness sector, by reducing high transaction costs, improving market information, and strengthening the regulatory environment. Agribusiness includes farming, transport, storage, processing, exporting and other agriculture-related businesses. Small farmers and women and youth would be the ultimate beneficiaries. Key to unlocking growth in agriculture will be an improved business environment and better enabling infrastructure that together reduce costs of investing and operating in Benin and attract new investment and encourage expansion of existing agribusinesses. This potential investment and expansion will help Benin take greater advantage of its geographic position as suppliers to the large Nigerian market along its eastern border and its role as a gateway to land-locked countries to its north.

#### COMPACT AT A GLANCE

Eligibility Notification .....	12-15-2011
Constraints Analysis.....	08-22-2012
Eligibility Notification .....	12-19-2012
Concept Note Received.....	09-14-2012
Concept Paper Received.....	04-15-2013
Eligibility Notification .....	12-11-2013



Eligibility Notification	
12-15-2011	MCC Board of Directors selected Benin as eligible to develop a second compact.
Constraints Analysis	
08-22-2012	A core team, funded by the Government of Benin, completed a constraints analysis and complementary preliminary social and gender and private sector assessments in August 2012. Consultations with civil society, women's organizations, private sector, local and national government were conducted throughout the country.
Eligibility Notification	
12-19-2012	MCC Board of Directors reselected Benin as eligible to continue developing a second compact.
Concept Note Received	
09-14-2012	A core team, funded by the Government of Benin, submitted concept notes on rural infrastructure, business environment, value chain support and renewable energy between September and November, 2012.
Concept Paper Received	
04-15-2013	A core team, funded by the Government of Benin, submitted Concept Papers with proposals in the areas of agribusiness institutional reform and enabling infrastructure.

Eligibility Notification	
12-11-2013	The MCC Board of Directors did not reselect Benin for eligibility in FY2014 because the country did not pass the Control of Corruption indicator, which is a hard hurdle for a passing score on the MCC scorecard.

To encourage Benin to renew its commitment to improve its performance on the MCC scorecard indicators, the MCC Board authorized MCC to continue "limited engagement" with the Government of Benin in FY2014. This "limited engagement" status means Benin is not eligible to access compact funds in FY2014, but can continue to invest its own resources in compact development, with limited support and coordination from MCC.

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